

# 2005 Report of Accomplishments (July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005)

## Eastern Klickitat Conservation District



### Most Significant Natural Resource Accomplishment

- Construction was completed on phase 1 of the Pine Creek Project. This project is a fish habitat/stream bank repair project with native riparian plantings that will provide shade. The project reach is over ½ mile of stream and when phase two is completed it will cover both sides of the stream. It involves root wads, toe logs, log vanes and planting benches along the stream banks. The lower end of Pine Creek is salmon and Steelhead spawning and rearing habitat.



### Mission of Eastern Klickitat Conservation District

- To improve, conserve, and promote the wise use of natural resources by providing technical, financial, educational, and research assistance for landowners, users of natural resources, individuals & organizations interested in natural resource issues within EKCD.*

### Natural Resource Improvements in 2005 - Summary

- The District helped residents obtain trees and shrubs for planting this spring. Over 88,000 plants were ordered through our office. Many of these plants were planted in riparian areas which will provide shade for several miles of district streams
- The District did cost shares on 160 acres of direct seeding
- District engineers did planning and design on 1 in-stream water quality project
- Construction was completed on phase 1 of the Pine Creek project
- Funding is being sought for phase 2 of the Pine Creek project

### Water Quality Implementation

- Eastern Klickitat CD paid out \$1074 in cost sharing water quality improvement projects. These included converting wheat/fallow ground to permanent cover and converting from conventional farming to direct seeding or no-till farming.
- The tree and shrub program helps area landowners implement Best Management Practices on their land. This program helps them implement practices required for certain CRP and Continuous CRP contracts, as well as CREP for qualifying streams.
- Engineering assistance was provided by EKCD on 4 projects ranging from cattle watering facilities to stream enhancements

### Basic Funding

- Eastern Klickitat CD helped residents obtain trees and shrubs for conservation planting this spring. Over 88,000 trees and shrubs required by CCRP, CRP and CREP programs were ordered through our district office. In addition, several thousand plants were obtained from other sources. Most of these plants were purchased to provide wildlife habitat, create windbreaks, and protect soil and water quality.
- This is the 11<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of a comprehensive water quality monitoring program. Twenty four sites have been selected and monitored at different levels of intensity. All of the streams are monitored for temperature, stream flow, pH, nitrates and dissolved oxygen.

### Local Funding

- No local funding was used by EKCD this year

### Puget Sound/Water Quality NA

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## **Professional Engineering**

- Our cluster engineer provides engineering services for 5 districts.
- Site visits and field surveys were done and a design completed to address channel bank erosion and to improve water quality on ¼ mile of Pine Creek.
- Completed phase 1 of Pine Creek Restoration project
- Other projects in EKCD included a livestock watering facility including 800 feet of pipe and two water troughs

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## **Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)**

- No new contracts this year.

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## **Livestock/Dairy**

- No new contracts this year.

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## **Irrigation Efficiencies**

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### **Watershed Conservation/Habitat Restoration**

- EKCD is cooperating with WSU on a direct seed test plot for farming BMPs.
- A watershed stream bank restoration project on Pine Creek was started this year. Construction was completed on phase 1 of the project, which included toe logs, bank stabilization, root wads and habitat enhancement log drops.
- Funding is being sought for phase 2 construction for this project

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## **Small Farm Programs**

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### **Community Collaboration & Coordination**

- Eastern Klickitat CD continues to provide pesticide re-certification credits for the annual meeting.
- EKCD continues to work on the WRIA 31 Planning Unit as they work toward a watershed management plan.
- The Rock Creek CRM was established under the direction of District Supervisors and Staff and continues to progress toward a management plan on Rock Creek. The future of this group is in doubt since Rock Creek has been returned to the 303(d) list as a category 5 stream.
- In cooperation with WSU, EKCD assisted with a tour of farm plots designed to study various dryland farming problems. The studies involve root diseases, variety trials, conservation practices and crop rotations.

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### **Marketing/Outreach & Education**

- We continue to work with area schools to provide instruction and hands on planting practice and conservation principles.
  - In cooperation with Central Klickitat Conservation District, EKCD has an informational booth at the Klickitat County Fair. Fair goers are informed of District activities and projects.
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Washington Conservation Districts assisting  
land managers with their conservation choices

